Message Text

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AMCONSUL IZMIR

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E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT PINS TU

SUBJECT: FURTHER PARLIAMENTARY DELAY OF SECURITY COURT LEGISLATION

REF: ANKARA 7346

1. THE DEMIREL GOVT'S ATTEMPT TO ENACT NEW STATE SECURITY COURT (SSC) LEGISLATION BEFORE THE COURTS ARE ABOLISHED OCT 11 AT THE DIRECTION OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL COURT (REFTEL) RAN AFOUL OF ANOTHER DELAYING TACTIC BY THE OPPOSITION REPUBLICAN PEOPLE'S PARTY (RPP). THE ACTING SPEAKER OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, RPP DEPUTY OKTAY EKSI, RULED THAT THE EMERGENCY SESSION OF THE PARLIAMENT HAD ENDED AND WAS ADJOURNED UNTIL NOV 1 AFTER TWO QUORUM CALLS SEPT 23 REVEALED THAT A QUORUM WAS NOT PRESENT.

2. SUPPORTERS OF THE SSC LEGISLATION IMMEDIATELY REACTED TO IKSI'S RULING. PRIMIN DEMIREL, ADDRESSING AN EMERGENCY CAUCUS OF THE JUSTICE PARTY ASSEMBLY GROUP, STATED "THE NATION WILL MAKE SHORT WORK OF THE RPP. WE MUST EXPOSE THEM TO THE NATION. THE ARCH-ARCHITECT OF ANARCHY HAS BEEN CAUGHT RED-HANDED." DEMOCRATIC PARTY (DP) CHAIRMAN BOZBEYLI LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TOLD REPORTERS THAT EKSI HAD VIOLATED THE STANDING ORDERS

OF THE ASSEMBLY AND THAT THE SESSION SHOULD HAVE BEEN ADJOURNED ONLY UNTIL SEPT 28.

- 3. A JP-INSPIRED EFFORT TO RECONVENE THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY BY A PETITION SIGNED BY 90 DEPUTIES SUCCEEDED AND TURKISH RADIO AND TELEVISION (TRT) RADIO ANNOUNCED SEPT 24 THAT THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY WOULD RESUME DEBATES ON THE SSC LEGISLATION SEPT 30.
- 4. COMMENT: REGARDLESS OF THE QUESTIONABLE LEGALITY OF EKSI'S MOVE, IT WILL LIKELY RESULT IN A DEFINITE INCREASE IN PARTISAN ACTIONS IN THE PARLIAMENT, WITH THE JP AND ITS ALLIES SEEKING OPPORTUNITIES TO RETALIATE. THE RPP ACTION SUCCEEDED IN DELAYING CONSIDERATION OF THE BILL BY A FEW DAYS AND INCREASED THE ODDS AGAINST PASSAGE OF A BILL BY OCT 11. ON THE OTHER HAND, IT MAY RESULT IN AN INCREASED WILLINGNESS OF THE COALITION PARTNERS TO COLLABORATE ON A COMPROMISE BILL RATHER THAN SEE THE ABOLITION OF THE SECURITY COURTS. MACOMBER

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